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ABSTRACT

This issue features articles and activities that concern the history of the presidential election process in the United States, with a special focus on Iowa's role in that process. The following features are included: "Lights, Camera, Action!"; "Presidential Whoopla"; "From Tree Stumps to Living Rooms"; "Wild Rosie's Campaign Code"; "Are You Too Wise for This?" (rebus game); "Steps to the White House"; "Political Funnies"; "Eyeball Benders" (photos of campaign items game); "Iowa's Seven Hopefuls"; "A Woman for President!"; "Wild Rosie's Map"; "Voting Dart Board"; and "'Goldfinch' Debate." (DB)

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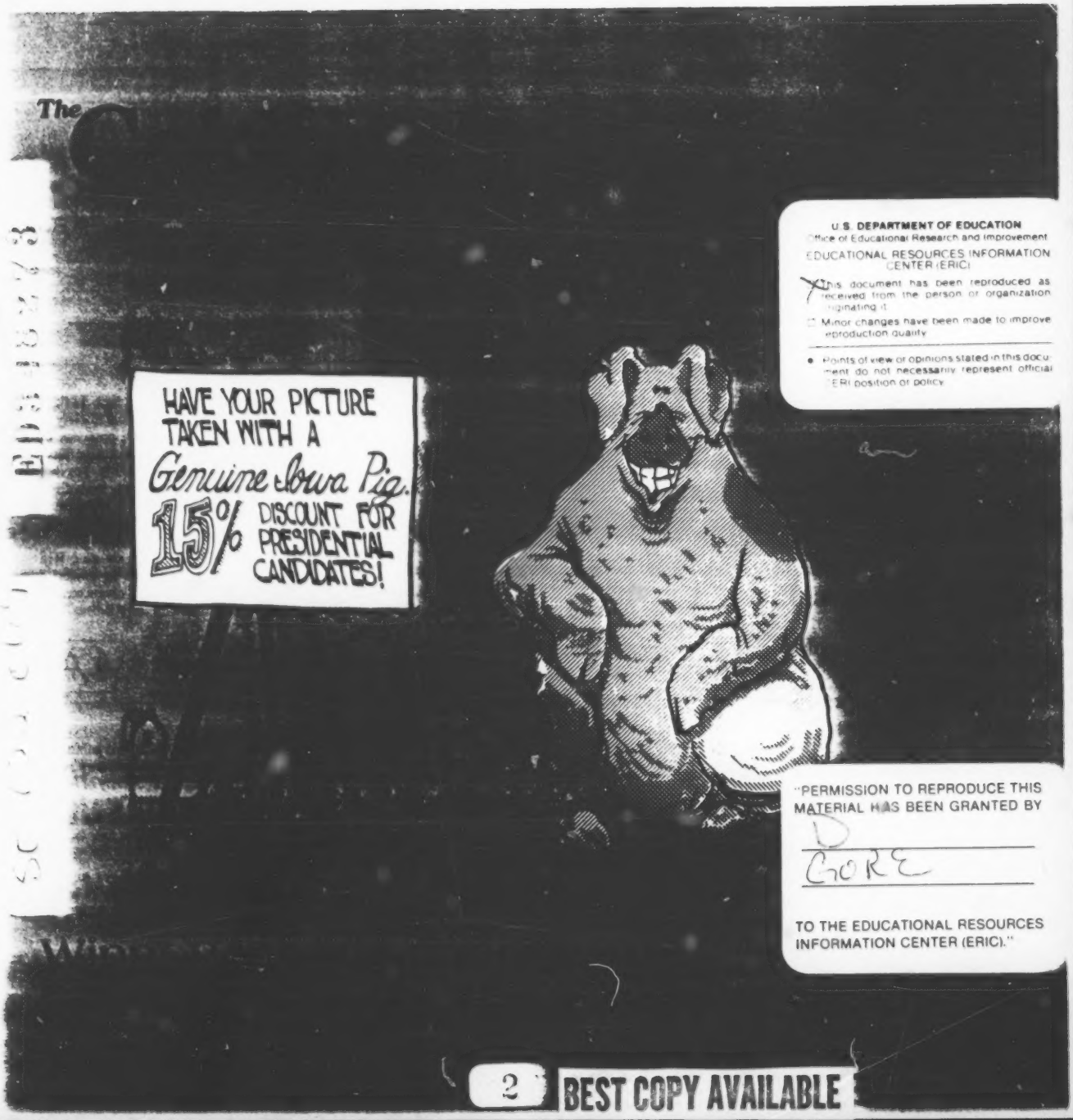

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History Mystery

The people in this photograph are attending a political gathering for a presidential candidate. Each person is wearing a mask of his or her favorite candidate's face. Can you guess who he was?

1. The year is 1964.
2. His campaign slogan was "In Your Heart You Know He's Right."
3. He was a U.S. Senator from Arizona.
4. He used a symbol with the abbreviation "H_2O."

Who was this candidate? See page 30. And read more about caucuses, campaigns, and presidential elections in this issue of *The Goldfinch*. ★

The **Goldfinch**

November 1991
Volume 13, Number 2

EDPRESS

Winner 1990 Golden Lamp Award for Excellence in Educational Journalism

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Revised Special Edition

IN THIS ISSUE

On the cover: The road to the White House begins here in Iowa with presidential campaigning before the Iowa caucuses. Cartoonist Brian Duffy of *The Des Moines Register* pokes fun at the candidates who pose with pigs for photographers. Photo courtesy of *The Des Moines Register* © 1984. "To winnow" means to separate the good from the bad (or desirable from the undesirable). "Winnowing the Field: Candidates, Caucuses, and Presidential Campaigns in Iowa" is an exhibit at the State Historical Building, Des Moines, Iowa, November 2, 1991 through June 6, 1993. The exhibit highlights both the Iowa caucuses as the first-in-the-nation event leadig to the presidency, and 150 years of presidential campaigning in Iowa. Important campaign issues and presidential hopefuls are also discussed.

Features

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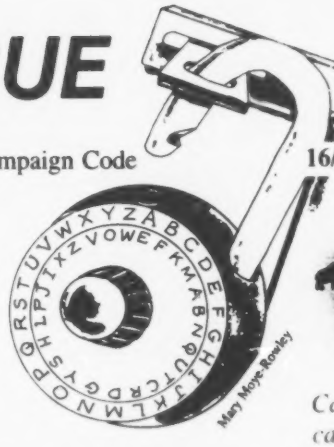
Parades, bonfires, and stumping—a look at the 1848 presidential campaign in Iowa through the eyes of a 13 year old

8/From Tree Stumps to Living Rooms

From whistle-stop campaigns to TV commercials—how has campaigning changed over the years

12/Campaign Code



Can you crack the code to discover the mystery words?

13/Are You Too Wise for This Game?

14/Steps to the White House

15/Presidential Funnies

They're not jokes, but drawings that poke fun at candidates!

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Can you figure out these campaign objects?

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Meet seven Iowa men who ran for president

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Lights, Camera, Action!

Des Moines Register

DES MOINES—There are about 14 million pigs in Iowa—about twice as many as in any other state. Every election-year February (that's every four years) since 1976, thousands of reporters loaded with TV cameras and lights have flocked to Iowa. Their assignment: to interview and photograph the presidential candidates who visit Iowa farms—and get their pictures taken with those lovable, squealing pigs.

From the farm to the city, the eyes of the nation have been on Iowa. Satellite dishes were set up in downtown Des Moines to broadcast results of Iowa's first-in-the-nation presidential **caucuses** (meetings to select delegates to county conventions).

More than two years before the Iowa caucuses, candidates begin their campaign trips through Iowa. You might see them on biking trips, at high school gyms, or in local coffee shops. They talk with ordinary folks, shake hands, and talk about such issues as farming and the economy. A 1988 *Des Moines Register*/ Iowa Poll found that 40 percent of Iowa Democrats had met or seen a presidential candidate in-person. Nationwide only about seven percent of Democrats had met or viewed a candidate.

The Iowa caucuses are the first step in the race to the White House. Only recently have they played such a big part in presidential campaigns. This issue of *The Goldfinch* reports on how presidential campaigns have shifted, how Iowa's role in campaigns has swelled, and how Iowans have taken part in presidential elections. ★

Presidential Whoopla

A young Iowa girl introduces you to the mysteries of early presidential elections in Iowa.

PLUM CREEK—Welcome back to the year 1848! Iowa voters will take part in the U.S. presidential election for the very first time! Meet Clara Bell, an imaginary kid who lives in a real place—Plum Creek, Jones County, Iowa. She'll tell you about the presidential whoopla more than 140 years ago:

My name is Clara Bell Roberts and I am 13 years old. I have a younger brother named Jeremiah and he is a pest—though right smart for a 10-year-old youngster. He wants to be the president of the United States when he grows up. I would like to be a teacher. It's one of the only respectable jobs for ladies.

Ma and Pa are talkin' about the first presidential election coming up in Iowa. We just became a state a few years ago in 1846. Politics is kind of confusin' for me. We didn't talk about it much in school last year. We study the Three R's—readin', writin', and 'rithmatic. I 'specially like the *Webster's Spelling Book*.

Back to politics. I'm dreadful sorry youngsters like myself can't vote for the president these days. It doesn't seem fair. To vote in Iowa you have to be a white man, at least 21 years old, and you have to have lived in Iowa for at least six months. Well, what about my ma you may be wonderin.' Ma can't vote, either. In fact, no women, free blacks, slaves, Indians, or insane folks can vote. *But* we *can* march in parades, write campaign letters to the newspapers, and go listen to stumping (more on that later).

The front page of the newspaper is full of election stories. The biggest race is between the Democrats and the Whigs. Many folks in Iowa support Lewis Cass, a Democrat who was the governor of the Territory of Michigan, and his vice-presidential candidate, William O. Butler, a Kentucky lawyer. I've read advertisements in the newspaper about these two men.

Many Whigs, on the other hand, are for a strong national bank. The Whig candidates for president and vice-president are Zachary Taylor, a general from Louisiana, and Millard Fillmore, a lawyer from New York.

There are other political parties with candidates runnin' for president. Martin Van Buren and Charles Francis Adams are running on the Free-Soil ticket. The Free-Soil party wants to prevent the spread of slavery into western lands. Slavery is a big issue in this election. Iowa is a free state so slavery is not allowed. But many folks want slavery in new territories out west.

Mary Moye Rowley

It was a right smart thing I went to that Democratic rally last night! Some Whigs were there singing 'Old Zach's Quick Step'—that new campaign tune. Men debated the hot topics of banks (we don't have our own bank here in Iowa) and slavery. No stumping took place last night. Stumping is when candidates come on horses, by steamboat, or by buggy and visit towns. They stand on tree stumps to give speeches. We have never seen a presidential candidate in Plum Creek. After the men debated, we watched fire-balls, bonfires, and listened to the band!

On the way home in the buggy, Pa told me how the president and vice-president get elected. In the spring, political leaders meet at **caucuses** (local meetings where delegates are chosen for county conventions) and discuss issues. **Delegates** are men who go to county conventions and choose representatives to the state convention. Then they pick delegates to the national conventions where the party candidates for president and vice-president are chosen.

However, Pa said that some party **bosses** (men who control the party) can call 'snap' caucuses. They hold a secret or quick caucus that only certain men know about to choose delegates. In one northern Iowa county, some men burned a

shed on purpose at the time of the advertised caucus. Most of the people in town helped with the fire, when the real caucus was held with only selected party bosses to vote! Seems right sneaky to me!

The whole caucus business doesn't seem very democratic to me. When the men vote for president in the November general election, they really vote for electors. Iowa has four senators who are picked by the state legislature as our electors in the electoral college. It's not really a college, but the name for men who actually vote for the president and vice-president.

[A few months later. . .]

The presidential election took place last month. We just found out who won! Why did it take so long? Guess it's 'cuz the mail service is pretty slow, what with the horses and the bad weather! Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore won. Most of the Iowa votes went to Democrats' Cass and Butler. Well, there's always the next election in 1852.

I wonder if I will ever be able to vote in an election. Maybe there will be a day when women and others can vote, too! ★

The Big Race

AN AVAILABLE CANDIDATE.
THE ONE QUALIFICATION FOR A WHIG PRESIDENT.

Just like Clara Bell Roberts described, the big race in the presidential election of 1848 was between the Democrats and the Whigs. This anti-Taylor political cartoon from 1848 shows Zachary Taylor, the leading Whig candidate, as a murderer—probably because of his involvement as a general in America's war with Mexico.

Taylor was a military hero to most people, but there were some Americans who were against the war. The Democrats might have used this cartoon to stir up those antiwar feelings against Zachary Taylor.

—*M.F.*

From Tree Stumps to Living Rooms

Before the days of television, presidential candidates gave speeches from the back of trains or while standing on tree stumps. Campaigning has come a long way!

William H. Taft campaigned in 1908 in Mason City, Iowa.

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WANTED: An applicant for a four-year position with the federal government. Must be over 35 years of age and have lived in the United States for at least 14 years. Only natural-born citizens need apply. Many benefits include free housing, meals, and worldwide travel. To apply, begin campaigning!

Campaigning is a long, tiring process. Despite the modern conveniences of telephones, television, satellite dishes, and airplanes, candidates often spend 15-hour days trying to get their opinions on issues to the public.

Many people argue that the media (television, radio, newspapers, and magazines) play too important a role in the campaign process. They say that candidates campaign and hold fund-raising events to get media attention. Costs of presidential campaigns have skyrocketed because of the high cost of TV commercials.

How does a campaign work today? What ways has it changed from earlier times when candidates jumped on a horse, rode to the next town, and stumped?

"Vote for me!"

Let's say you want to run for class president. If you wanted to organize your campaign like you were running for president of the United States, you would first ask your friends to be on your staff. People who are experts in some areas like fund-raising or speech writing could be your consultants. You also need unpaid volunteers to send out letters, distribute leaflets, and help with the little things that go into a campaign.

Now you have to think of ways to finance your campaign. How can you raise money? You can hold car washes and bake sales, sell oranges and grapefruits, or get sponsors to organize a fund-raising bike ride.

While these fund-raising events are going on, you need to write about your opinions on different issues. How can you change the food in the cafeteria? Do students need more recess time than they're getting? When you appear in public, you will be able to tell other students how you feel about issues that are important to them.

"Vote for me!" The next step is advertising. Your

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advertising committee can make posters, pins, or bumper stickers using your name and perhaps a campaign slogan. This expense is a big chunk of presidential candidates' budgets. The candidates spend millions of dollars for 30-second and 60-second TV commercials.

Want to have a debate with your opposing candidates? The presidential candidates often debate issues on TV in many states.

Finally, time to campaign. This means hanging out in the school hallways talking directly with voters. If you were running for president of the United States, you would be flying all over the country meeting people.

Today it's a bit trickier campaigning for president than in the mid-1800s. In Iowa, in the 1860 presidential election where Abraham Lincoln defeated Stephen Douglas, "large mass meetings were held that were all-day affairs, starting with parades in the morning, speeches in the afternoon, and torchlight processions at night." Parades with floats showed figures of Lincoln as "the rail-splitter" from Illinois.

Candidates often traveled by horse, steamboat, or train to small towns and made speeches from tree stumps (that's where the phrase "political stumping" comes from). Newspaper reporters often covered these speeches.

In the 19th century, people pushed campaign ball-tops down to bring

SHSI

Modern campaigning

Today's candidates can reach more voters than in the past because of two things: media and modern ways of traveling. Advanced technology introduced radio, television, satellites, and airplanes to the campaign trail. Warren G. Harding, the 29th president, gave the first presidential speech on the radio in 1922. The first talking pictures (movies with sound) of a presidential candidate were taken of President Calvin Coolidge on the steps of the Capitol in 1924.

Television has played a major role in the way we think about candidates. In 1952, Richard Nixon gave a famous TV speech about his pet cocker spaniel, Checkers, to save his place as vice-president on the Republican ticket. He named all of the campaign gifts he received including Checkers. The speech seemed to restore public confidence in Nixon.

People debate the role of television in presidential campaigning. Does it have too much power? In 1948, Harry S. Truman's **"whistle-stop" campaign** (campaign by train) traveled 31,000 miles (he came

to Iowa, too) but he spoke to only a small percentage of the population. Today millions of people see images of presidential candidates on television.

Since 1972, Iowans have hosted the first-in-the-nation caucuses. For many years New Hampshire's **primary** had always kicked off the presidential race. (A primary is similar to a caucus, but candidates are chosen by vote.) In 1972, the Democratic National Convention was set for July 9. At the time, the Iowa Democratic party set the date for the Iowa Democratic caucuses in January—before New Hampshire held its primary.

The result? The national media began to cover the first Democratic caucus here in Iowa. Attendance at the caucus improved over earlier years, too.

Since then, Iowans have hosted the nation's first caucuses. Candidates have spent much more time campaigning in Iowa (999 days or more than two years for the 1988 election) than in other states. Iowans see them waving, hear them talk about issues, and shake their hands—kind of like the good ol' days. ★

What is a caucus?

It isn't a convention of crows. It is a group of people who meet to discuss the presidential candidates and vote for delegates. The entire state of Iowa is split into about 2,480 **precincts** (parts). Most precincts hold or conduct a Democratic and a Republican caucus.

Caucuses are held in schools, churches, city halls, and homes. The times and locations of caucuses have to be published in the newspaper at least twice before they are held.

Delegates support a certain candidate. Based on its size, each delegate group chooses a number of its members to attend the county convention as delegates. Republicans take a "**straw poll**" (vote) before selecting delegates to county conventions. Democrats divide into groups based on which candidate they support.

The Democrats and Republicans also discuss the platform. The platform is the "grocery list" of ideas that the party supports during the campaign. Platform ideas concerning homelessness, AIDS, education, or even bridge and road repair address local, state, and national issues. ★

WILD ROSIE'S CAMPAIGN CODE

Here's the top secret code you'll need to uncover the following campaign words found in this issue of The Goldfinch. When you're done, share the code with a friend. You can now write secret messages to each other!

1. **FURRFYELM** _____
2. **UPPIAP** _____
3. **KEIKIP** _____
4. **ZQUPJRA PJYS** _____ _____
5. **SYRR** _____
6. **SYRUJUKER SELJUAP** _____ _____
7. **MAFEJAP** _____
8. **SLUDELO** _____
9. **KEGMUMEJAP** _____
10. **JX KYDDALKUERP** _____ _____

Answers on page 30.

Mary Moye Rowley

R U YY 4 th ?

(Are you too wise for this?) game! Can you figure out the rebus game on this page?

Mary Moye Rowley

Answers on page 30.

Des Moines Register

IF YOU WERE A child in the 1840s you could take part in presidential elections by watching parades and reading newspaper articles. A lot has changed in the last 150 years! Kids today get involved in presidential campaigns. They volunteer to help with mailings and phone calls.

Now you can still watch parades and read newspaper articles about presidential campaigns. But what you read will be different. The way a candidate gets elected has also changed. No longer are only adult men allowed to cast ballots. All U.S. citizens over the age of 18 can vote.

Here are the four steps to the White House that today's candidates must take:

STEP ONE: Caucuses and Primaries

Some states hold caucuses where political party members meet in libraries, schools, or homes to talk about the candidates. They choose **delegates** (representatives support a favorite candidate at county, district, and state party conventions). Caucus goers also talk about the issues they support on a **platform** (a list of opinions about issues).

STEP TWO: National Party Conventions

Delegates nominated from state party conventions gather for a week at their parties' national conventions. The delegates then vote for the candidates to whom they are pledged. After the presidential selection, the candidates suggest running mates. The delegates also decide on a national platform.

STEP THREE: The General Election

On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, all registered U.S. voters at least 18 years old can go to the polls and vote for their favorite candidates!

STEP FOUR: The Electoral College

What the voters in the general election are actually voting for are electors who directly vote for the president and vice-president. Each state gets the same number of electoral votes as its total members of Congress. Iowa has two senators and will have five U.S. representatives after the 1992 election, or seven electoral votes. The winning candidate gets all of the electoral votes in each state. The candidate receiving the majority of electoral votes makes it to the White House for the next four years. ★

Political Funnies

by Mary Flanagan

Throughout American history cartoonists have used their skills to make fun of or exaggerate events going on in the political world. Sometimes they draw **caricatures** (sketches which exaggerate certain features) of actual candidates, and other times they just sketch situations.

Des Moines Register

1. The party that is made fun of in this cartoon is the

(A) Democratic party
(B) Republication party
(C) Slumber party

Examine the following cartoons, and then circle the best answer to the questions that follow. Answers on p. 30.

Des Moines Register

2. Television and radio reporters as well as candidates surround the farmer wearing the Iowa hat. Why?

(A) The farmer's cow gave birth to a two-headed calf and candidates have rushed to Iowa to get their pictures taken with the amazing creature.

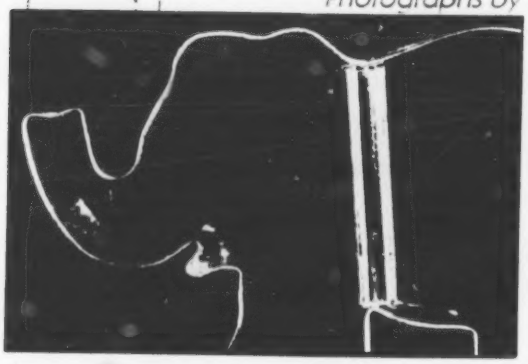
(B) Iowa's caucus is the first one in the nation. Candidates and reporters want to predict the rest of the nation's votes by how the candidates do in the Iowa caucuses.

(C) The candidates are concerned about farming issues and want to use information about Iowa corn in the campaign.

Eyeball Benders

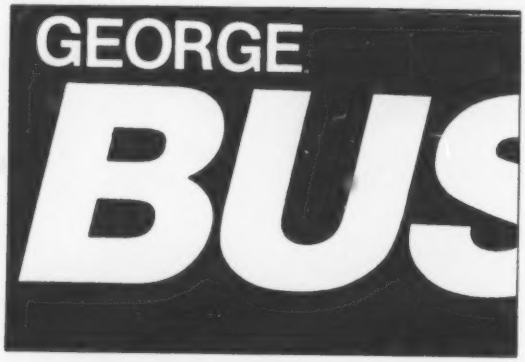
The more you see, the less you see. Can you discover what these campaign items are?

Photographs by Steven Onrn



1

CLUE: This symbol of the Republican part made sweet things in the 1950s.

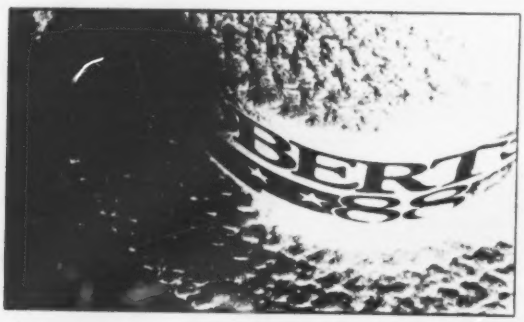


3

CLUE: Vice-President George Bush ran fo president in 1988. These were stuck on cars.

2

CLUE: Geraldine Ferraro ran for vice-president with Walter Mondale in 1984. People wore these on their clothing.



4

CLUE: Supporters of 1988 presidentia candidate Pat Robertson wore these on their heads.

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5
CLUE: It was the last name of a president, and also a car maker. If you weren't careful, you could get stuck by it!

6
CLUE: He liked to talk and talk and talk. Presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan's speeches were recorded on this.

7
CLUE: Richard Nixon's supporters made funny noises with this during his presidential campaign!

8
CLUE: This green object was worn on the lapels of many Franklin D. Roosevelt supporters during the 1936 campaign. What was it? Answers on page 30.

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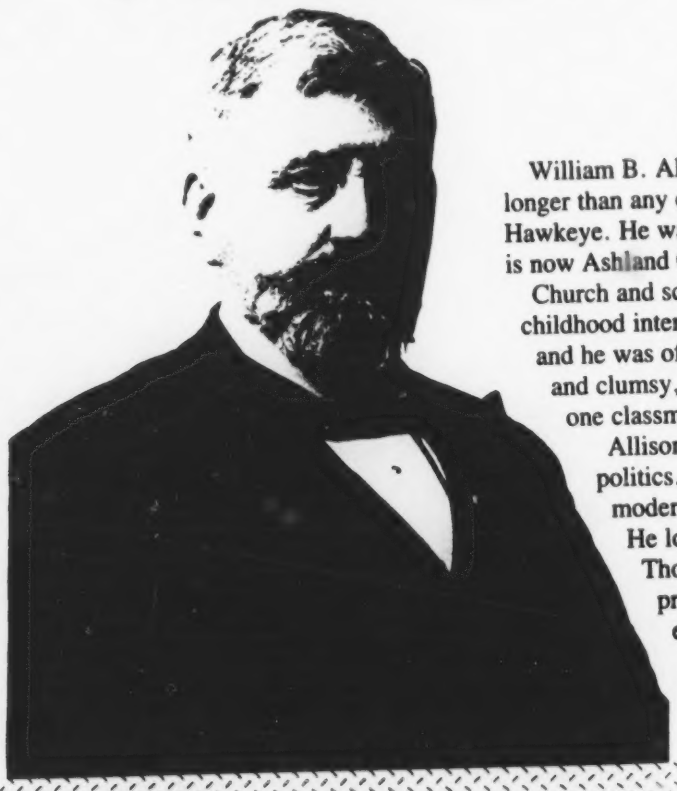
Iowa's Seven Hopefuls

A 54-year-old bachelor who advertised for a wife and a tall, clumsy man nicknamed "Big-Eyed Bill" are two of the seven Iowans who ran for president. Only one of them made it to the White House. Here are their stories!



"Big-Eyed Bill" Goes to Capitol Hill
William B. Allison

William B. Allison (1825-1908) represented Iowa in Congress longer than any other Iowan—43 years. Allison wasn't always a Hawkeye. He was born a Buckeye, growing up on a farm in what is now Ashland County, Ohio.

Church and school were probably Allison's two most important childhood interests. His classmates called him "Big-Eyed Bill" and he was often teased because of his appearance. He was tall and clumsy, but could take the teasing with "good humor" as one classmate described.

Allison taught school before studying law and entering politics. Back in Ohio, Allison's law practice was only moderately successful, and his political ventures failed. He looked around for a new home and chose Dubuque. Though he failed twice to obtain the Republican presidential nomination, Iowans elected him to serve eight years in the House of Representatives and 35 years in the Senate. Allison died after being nominated for senator for the seventh time. ★

Hopeful Democrat: Horace Boies

Like most of Iowa's early governors, Horace Boies (BOYS) (1827-1923) was born on a farm. But unlike most of them, he never got too far away from farms. He was born and raised near Buffalo, New York. At the age of 16, he moved to the Wisconsin Territory in 1843 with only 75 cents to his name. Boies "roughed it" for five years. When he was 21, he returned to New York to study law.

Boies returned to the Midwest in 1867 and settled in Waterloo, Iowa, where he was a successful lawyer. He became the second largest land holder in Grundy County. He'd come a long way since arriving in Wisconsin with 75 cents!

In 1880 Boies joined with the Democratic party in Iowa because Republicans wanted statewide **prohibition** (no alcoholic drink allowed in the state) and high taxes on goods brought from other countries.

In 1889, he ran for governor of Iowa and won. At the age of 62, Boies became the 13th governor of Iowa.

Delegates at Democratic National Conventions twice considered Boies as a nominee for president, but he was never chosen. When he retired, he lived on his farms in Grundy County and in California. ★

"Jumpin' Jim" James B. Weaver

James B. Weaver (1833-1912) was the first Iowan to run for president of the United States. As an adventuresome 19 year old, Weaver hunted for gold in California, then returned to Iowa to work as a store clerk. After graduating from an Ohio law school in 1854, he practiced law in Bloomfield, Iowa, until the outbreak of the Civil War (1861-1865).

Weaver volunteered for the Civil War as a lieutenant, then was promoted to colonel and later brigadier general. Once, a bullet went through his hat during a battle in Tennessee, but Weaver was never injured.

Honorable service in the Civil War led Weaver into politics. Some people called him a visionary because of his radical ideas. Others laughed at him. He supported a federal income tax, building of the Panama Canal, and government control of railroads. Many of his political dreams eventually came true, although the three-term legislator was never elected president.

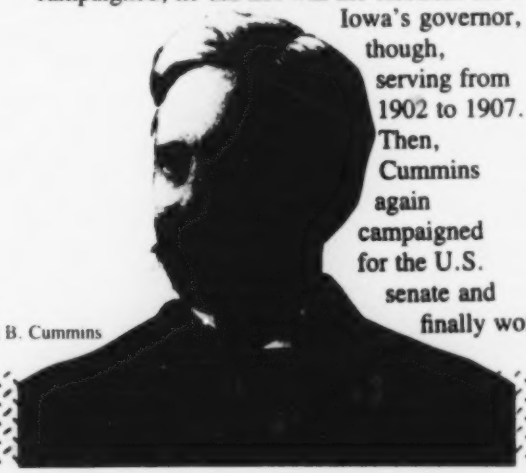
He earned the nickname "Jumpin' Jim" because he changed political parties many times during his career. James Weaver spent his later years as mayor of Colfax, Iowa, cleaning up the town's corrupt government. ★

Compromise Candidate Albert B. Cummins

Leadership and speaking abilities made Albert B. Cummins (1850-1926) stand out in Iowa's political crowd. He was a man of Scotch-Irish parents who was dedicated, courageous, and worked very hard to reach his goals. As a teen-ager, Cummins went to school and worked as a carpenter. When he was 17 years old, he went to law school, and worked so hard that he finished in two years instead of four—and also tutored other students on the side!

After graduating, Cummins worked as a lawyer in Des Moines.

Cummins entered politics because he wanted to be a U.S. senator from Iowa. Although he campaigned, he did not win the election. He was Iowa's governor, though, serving from 1902 to 1907. Then, Cummins again campaigned for the U.S. senate and finally won.



Albert B. Cummins

In the presidential election of 1912, the Republican party could not decide who to choose for a candidate—William H. Taft or Theodore Roosevelt. Cummins received some nomination votes as a "compromise candidate," but not enough to win. Four years later, Cummins won Iowa's only presidential primary ever held, but he was not a serious challenger in the national presidential race. ★

The Hopeful Bachelor Andrew Hisey

Andrew Hisey (HISS-y) (1854-1928) wanted to be president of the United States. But he was afraid the American people wouldn't vote for him because he didn't have a wife. So the 54-year-old bachelor from Tama went to Drake University in Des Moines to search for a bride. Hisey advertised that he'd be a good husband who would never cause his wife's "brow to frown," in exchange for the political success he felt marriage would encourage.

Whether or not Hisey succeeded in finding a wife is not certain. It is clear that he struck out as a politician. He ran for mayor of Tama in 1903 and for governor of Iowa in 1906, losing both races. Little known outside of Iowa, Hisey's name never made it onto the 1908 presidential ballot. ★

The Only One Who Made It
Herbert Hoover

His skill as a mining engineer led Herbert Hoover (1874-1964) around the world. Known as a "doctor of sick mines," he worked in Australia, Asia, Europe, Africa, and the United States. But it was Hoover's compassion for people that led him to the presidency.

Hoover supervised food distribution to millions of starving World War I victims in Belgium and France. He extended aid programs to the Soviet Union because, he explained, "Starving people should be fed, whatever their politics."

Born in West Branch, Iowa, Hoover never dreamed of becoming president. He did dream of a college education, though, and he worked hard to earn it.

After Hoover's landslide victory in the 1928 presidential election, he soon became known as the "children's president." Children often visited him at the White House, and much of his work as president was devoted to nurturing America's youth.

Herbert Hoover's advice to kids who want to be president: get a good education, be honest, considerate, and a good sport. Then, he said, "you will be a person of standing in your community even if you do not make the White House." ★

Farmer's Friend
Henry A. Wallace

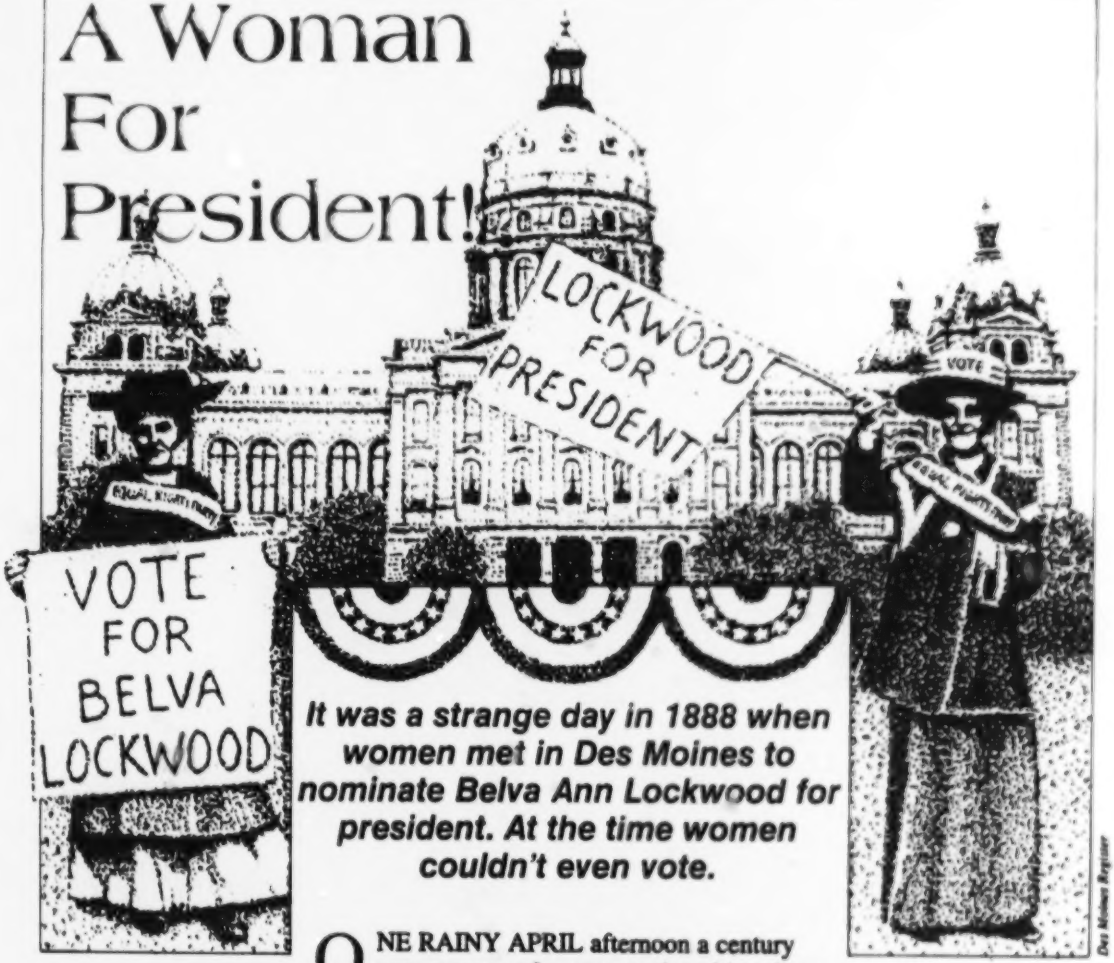
Henry A. Wallace (1888-1965) followed in his father's footsteps. Like his father (and grandfather), he was editor of *Wallaces' Farmer* magazine. This job kept him in touch with the problems farmers constantly battled. It was no surprise to Iowans when President Franklin D. Roosevelt selected Wallace to serve as secretary of agriculture—a cabinet position Wallace's father once held, too!

Besides studying farmers' problems, Wallace worked to create solutions. His experiments with developing better varieties of corn led to the founding of Pioneer Seed Corn Company, now known as Pioneer Hi-Bred International. As secretary of agriculture he supported laws which helped farmers recover from the Great Depression.

Wallace also served as President Roosevelt's vice-president. But his own bid for the presidency was unsuccessful. Nominated by the Progressive party in 1948, he received only 2.4 percent of the vote. After his defeat, Wallace dropped out of politics. (Read more about Henry A. Wallace and his family in the February 1990 issue of *The Goldfinch*, "The Wallaces.")

—Millie K. Frese ★

A Woman For President!



It was a strange day in 1888 when women met in Des Moines to nominate Belva Ann Lockwood for president. At the time women couldn't even vote.

ONE RAINY APRIL afternoon a century ago, a group of women gathered in a large meeting hall in Des Moines. They were proud and excited, because they were delegates to a national political convention—the 1888 convention of the National Equal Rights party.

These women came together to choose their candidates for president and vice-president of

the United States. But unlike the delegates to current political conventions, the women who met in Des Moines could not vote for the candidates they nominated. More than 30 years of hard work lay ahead before American women won **suffrage** (the right to vote).

But on that spring day in 1888, the women waited eagerly while the nominating **ballots** (votes) were counted. Delegates from every state but South Carolina and every territory but Idaho had sent ballots—310 in all. When the votes were tallied, the National Equal Rights party had its candidates: Belva Ann Lockwood for president, and Alfred Love for vice-president.

It may seem strange for a woman to run for president when she could not even vote, but Belva Lockwood was not the first. In 1872, another woman, Victoria Woodhull, had campaigned for president on the Equal Rights ticket. But she gave up her campaign before the election took place.

The women who nominated Lockwood in 1888 knew she would not give up. She had run before in 1884, and she had worked hard for women's rights all of her life. No one expected her to win, but they knew her candidacy would help bring attention to the lack of equality and democracy in America.

Forward-Looking Ideas

Like the other candidates for president, Belva Lockwood gave speeches across the country about her party's platform. But Belva's platform was far ahead of her time.

She supported equal rights for all citizens, without regard to sex, color, or nationality. She called for "a fair distribution of the public offices to women as well as men." Lockwood wanted to increase **pensions** (regular payments of money) for widows and orphans. She also wanted to make husbands and wives equal owners of property. In many places, only men were allowed to own property.

Lockwood declared that women as well as men should be judges. "If I am elected," she said, "I will appoint a woman to the Supreme Court of the United States." Lockwood first made this promise in 1884. But not until 1981 was a woman—Sandra Day O'Connor—appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

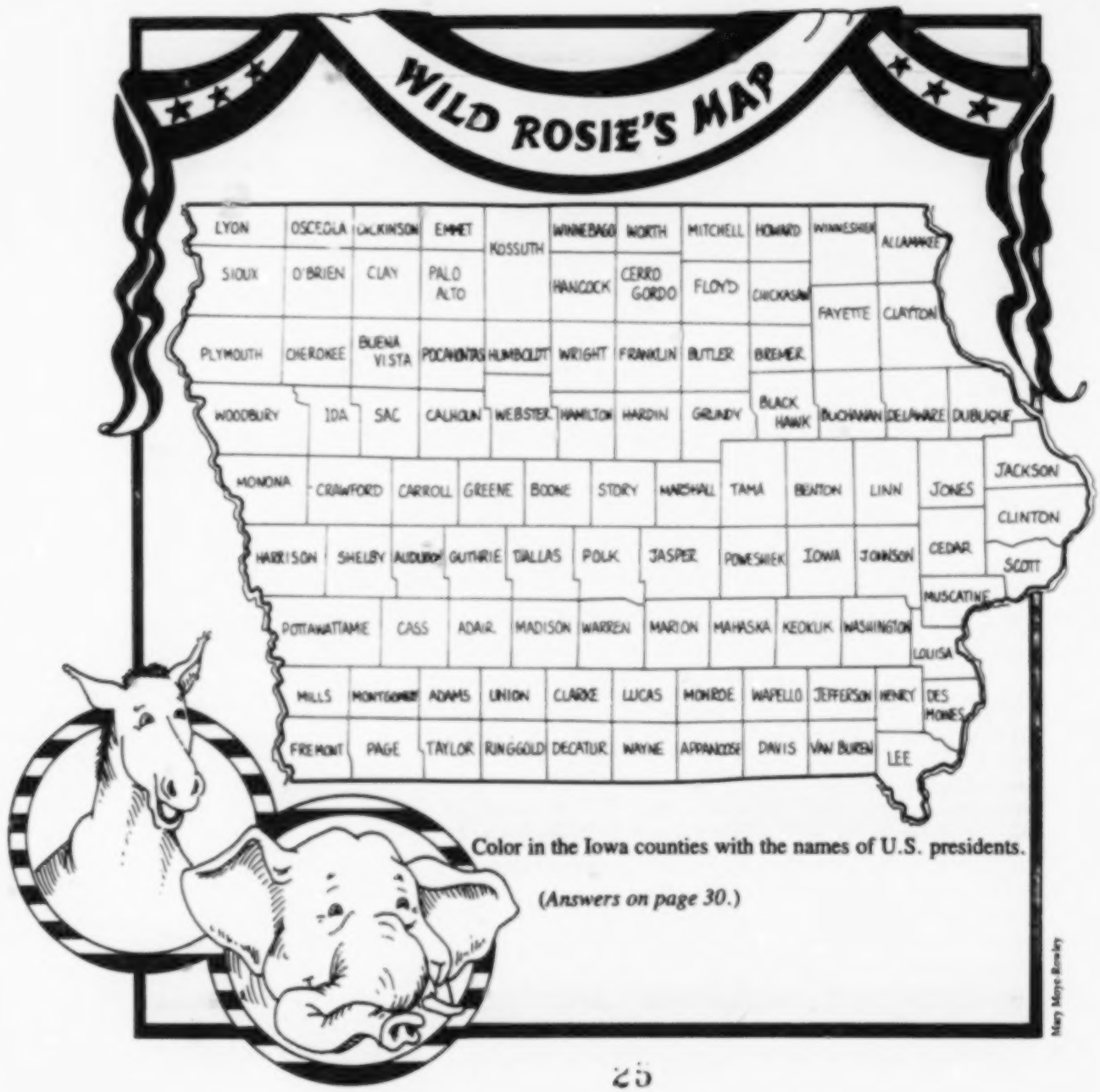
Lockwood understood the need for women judges because she herself was a lawyer. But it was very difficult for a woman to become a lawyer, and few succeeded.

She had to apply to several law schools before she found one that would admit women. When Lockwood finished school, the men in charge refused to give her a diploma. Lockwood did not give up easily. She wrote a letter to President Ulysses Grant, and he helped her to get her diploma. At last, in 1873, Lockwood became a lawyer.

Because she lived in Washington, D.C., the headquarters of the federal government, Lockwood needed to practice in the federal courts. But the federal courts did not admit women. She persuaded the senators and representatives to pass a new law, giving women access to the federal courts.

In 1879, Belva Lockwood became the first woman lawyer to argue a case before the U.S. Supreme Court. No wonder she wanted to see a woman judge!

—*Sharon Wood* ★

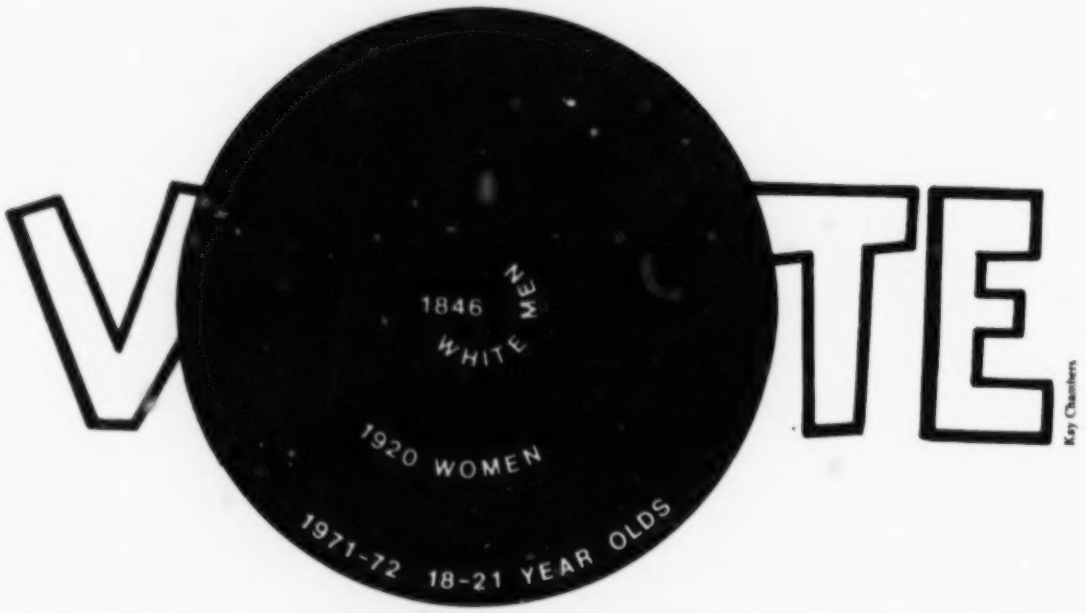


Color in the Iowa counties with the names of U.S. presidents.

(Answers on page 30.)

Mary Maye Rowley

Voting Dart Board



Have you ever played darts? The chart above looks like a dart board. But it shows how the right to vote in Iowa has expanded like a widening circle to include more people.

It took several amendments to state constitutions and the U.S. Constitution for the right to vote in elections to spread from only white men 21 years or older to women, African-American men, Native Americans (Eskimos and American Indians), and finally, to 18 year olds.

Look at the chart above. Answer the questions by filling in the blanks. (Answers on page 30.)

1. List all of the types of people who could vote in 1924. _____
2. When did women get the right to vote? _____
3. What group has always been able to vote? _____
4. Who received the right to vote in 1868? _____
5. How many years after white men voted in Iowa were women allowed to vote? _____

Goldfinch *Debate*

Should the spotlight be on Iowa? You decide!

YEARS BEFORE the presidential elections, candidates begin to scramble around the state of Iowa. The first-in-the-nation caucuses can boost a lesser-known candidate into the national spotlight. A poor showing in the Iowa caucuses can spell doom for a candidate's campaign.

Some people believe that Iowa should not play such an important role in the presidential election system. Others disagree. Read the following arguments and you decide!

Is Iowa a good place to hold the first caucuses? Yes!

1. Iowa is about the 25th state in the nation in population. Since it's right in the middle, it is representative of most of the states.
2. Iowa is not a very populous or rich state. A campaign can be started here without spending a lot of money on commercials, because two TV stations and one radio station can reach almost everyone in the state. Since Iowa's population is pretty low, costs for TV commercials are less than in places where more people live like California or New York.
3. Iowans seem to take their role seriously, partly because of all of the publicity. Iowans are current-events people. They read lots of newspapers, watch television news, and listen to the radio to keep up on what's happening in the world. Iowans are a well-educated bunch.
4. Candidates can campaign in Iowa for a long time. One candidate arrived in Iowa two years before the 1988 caucuses to bicycle across the state!

Des Moines Register

No! Iowa isn't a good place to start the caucuses.

1. Iowa sends a small delegation to the national conventions—only about two percent of the total.
2. The caucus system discourages some people from participating because it takes place in the evening, when some people have to work. Sometimes caucuses can last all night.
3. Most Iowans are white, middle-class, and Protestant. This is not representative of the United States, where people of all races and ethnic groups, religions, and economic levels vote.
4. In some years, Iowa has been a lousy predictor of which candidates might win. All of the people who did very well in the 1988 Iowa caucuses, such as Republican Bob Dole and Democrat Richard Gephardt, dropped out of the race for the presidency.

What do you think? Should the first-in-the-nation caucuses stay in Iowa? Why or why not? Hold a debate or write an essay supporting reasons for your answer.

Games & More

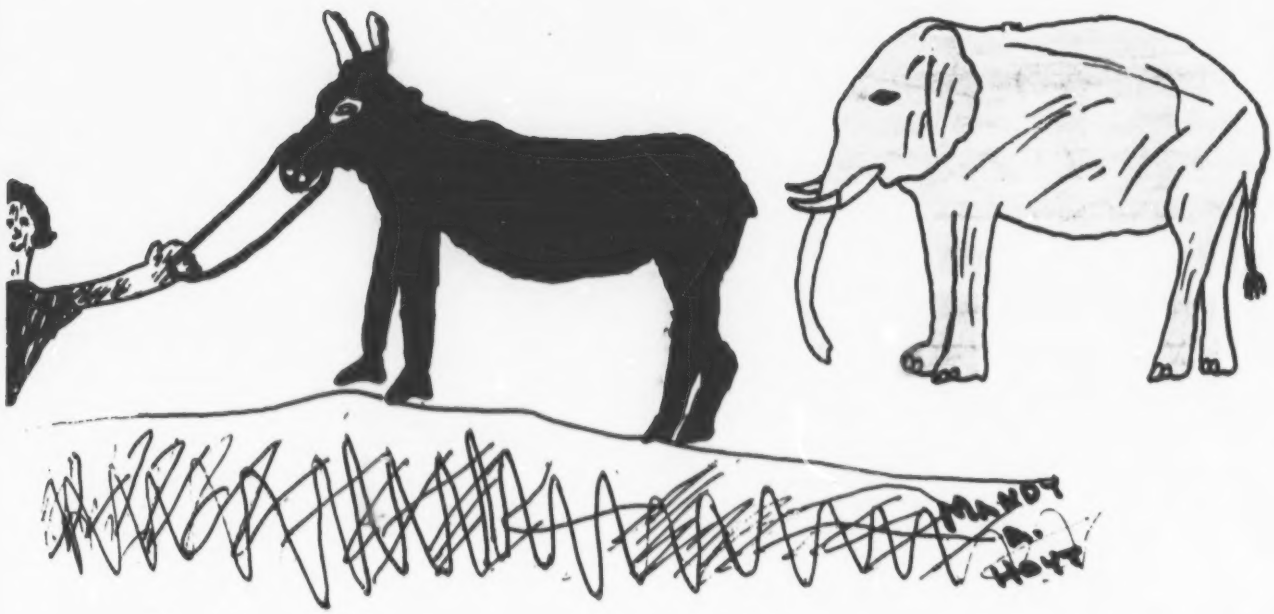
Hint: You can enter the White House. (Answer on page 30.)

Mary Moye Rowley

History Makers

Be a history maker! *The Goldfinch* wants to hear about your discoveries in Iowa history. If you have any stories, poems, drawings, or class projects, please send them to us so we can print them in future issues of *The Goldfinch*. Send your projects to: History Makers, *The Goldfinch*, State Historical Society of Iowa, 402 Iowa Avenue, Iowa City, Iowa 52240.

The following drawings of the Democratic and Republican party symbols were done for *The Goldfinch* by Mandy Hoyt, 10, Greenwood Elementary School, Des Moines, Iowa.



Disk Detective

Help Wild Rosie discover the mystery symbols

by Jean E. Wulf

Wild Rosie looks through old magazines at the library. She reads some magazines from the 1870s called *Harper's Weekly*. Wild Rosie finds drawings of two animals that represent the major political parties. Thomas Nast, a famous political cartoonist, drew them. One stubborn animal represents the Democratic party. (Nast was a Republican so he drew a stupid animal to symbolize the opposition.) The other is a larger animal depicting the Republican party.

To see what Wild Rosie found, load BASIC on an IBM Personal Computer or an Apple IIe or IIC (with an 80-character screen) and enter this program.

(NOTE: Type in everything in **bold** print. When you see a number before a " and a letter, hit the letter that many times. For example, 5"Y" means you type **"YYYYY"** and return. Hit the space bar only when you see [sp].)

```
10 PRINT TAB(3)"D"SPC(2)"D"
20 PRINT TAB(31)"D" SPC(1) "D"
30 PRINT TAB(30)3"D"
40 PRINT TAB(30)6"D"
50 PRINT TAB(9)28"D"
60 PRINT TAB(6)32"D"
70 PRINT TAB(5)"D"SPC(2)25"D"SPC(2)
3"D"
80 PRINT TAB(4)"D"SPC(4)23"D"
90 PRINT TAB(10)"DD"SPC(1)"DD"SPC(10)
"DD"SPC(1)"DD"
100 PRINT TAB(10)"DD"SPC(1)"DD"SPC(10)
"DD"SPC(1)"DD"
110 PRINT TAB(10)"DD"SPC(1)"DD"SPC(10)
"DD"SPC(1)"DD"
120 PRINT TAB(1)"DD"SPC(1)"DD"SPC(10)
"DD"SPC(1)"DD"SPC(26)6"R"
130 PRINT TAB(55)"R"SPC(6)"R"
140 PRINT TAB(54)"R"SPC(3)"R"SPC(4)
"R"
150 PRINT TAB(38)16"R"SPC(4)"R"SPC(2)
"O"SPC(2)"R"
160 PRINT TAB(36)"RR"SPC(14)"R"SPC(4)
"R"SPC(6)3"R"
170 PRINT TAB(34)"R[sp]R"SPC(16)4"R"
SPC(6)"RR"SPC(2)"RR"
180 PRINT TAB(33)"R"SPC(2)"R"SPC(25)
"R"SPC(6)"RR"
190 PRINT TAB(32)"R"SPC(4)"R"SPC(23)
"R"
200 PRINT TAB(38)"R[sp]4R[sp]9R[sp]4R
[sp]R"
210 PRINT TAB(38)"R"SPC(1)"R"SPC(2)
"R"SPC(1)"R"SPC(7)"R"SPC(1)"R"SPC(2)
"R"SPC(1)
220 PRINT TAB(38)3"R"SPC(2)3"R"SPC(7)
3"R"SPC(2)3"R"
230 END
```

You discover a _____ and a _____.

Answers

Page 2: These Iowans were at a presidential convention supporting their candidate Arizona senator Barry Goldwater—by wearing face masks.

Page 12: (1) billboard; (2) issues; (3) caucus; (4) whistle stop; (5) poll; (6) political parties; (7) debates; (8) primary; (9) candidates; (10) TV commercial.

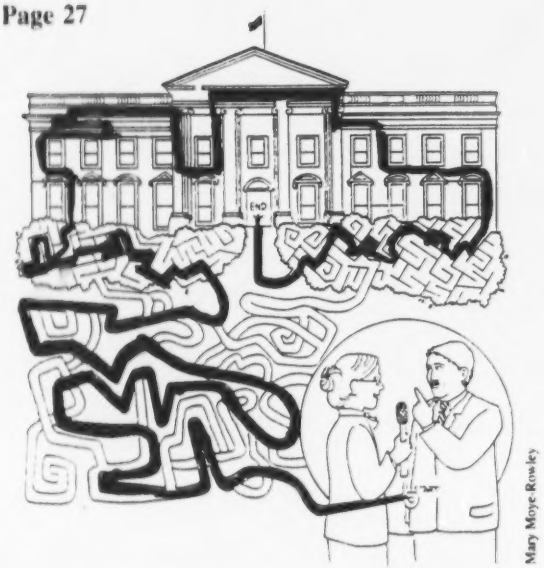
Page 13: (1) I like Ike; (2) A Chicken in Every Pot; (3) Happy Days Are Here Again; (4) The Pen is Mightier Than the Sword; (5) Tippecanoe and Tyler, Too.

Page 15: (1) Stampede! This political cartoon was drawn after the 1972 presidential election. Republication Richard Nixon ran against Democrat George McGovern. Nixon won the majority of votes in every state except Massachusetts and the District of Columbia. The Republicans did indeed "trample" the Democrats. A slumber party, by the way, is when you invite friends to sleep overnight. (2) Iowa's first-in-the-nation caucuses draw the attention of the media who come to the state when candidates visit. While candidates are concerned about farming issues, the best answer is B. P.S. We don't know whether or not any candidates have seen a two-headed calf!

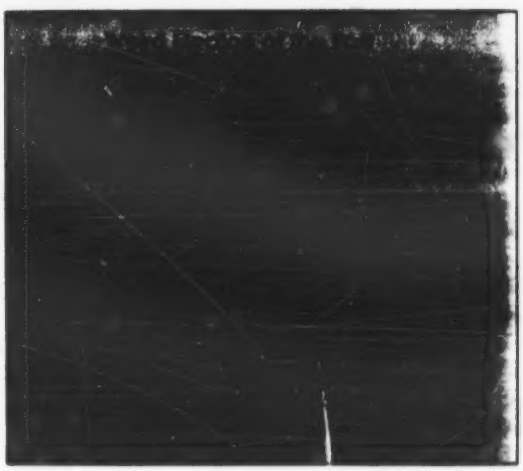
Pages 16-17: (1) This elephant shaped cookie cutter was made in the 1950s. The elephant is the symbol of the Republican party. (2) campaign button; (3) bumper sticker; (4) hat; (5) lapel pin; (6) record album; (7) clicker—you hold between your thumb and forefinger; (8) Democratic presidential candidate Franklin D. Roosevelt's button in the shape of a donkey—the symbol of the Democratic party.

Page 24: Buchanan; Johnson; Polk; Harrison; Madison; Washington; Jefferson; Taylor and Van Buren.

Page 27



Page 29: A donkey and elephant.



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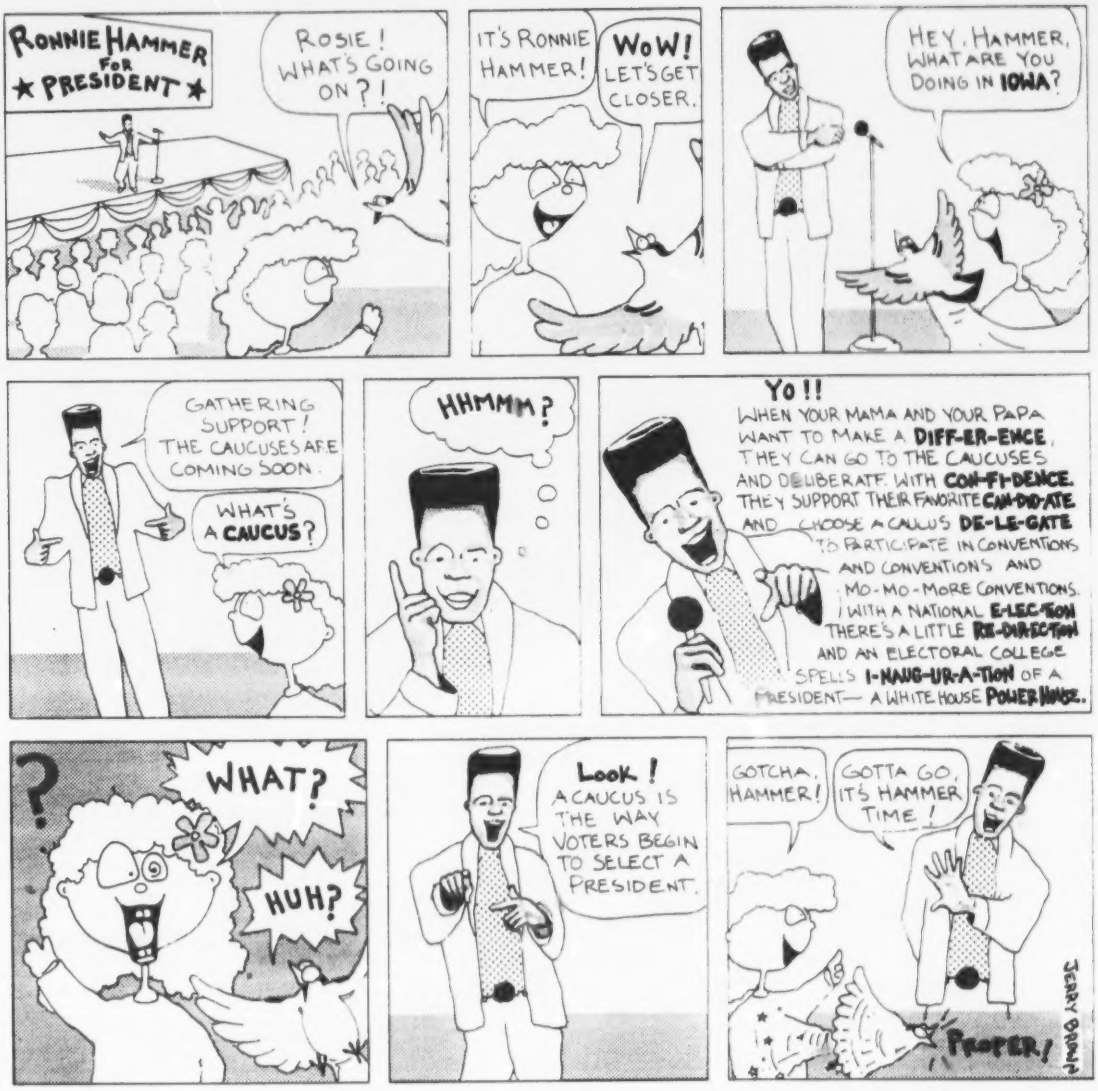
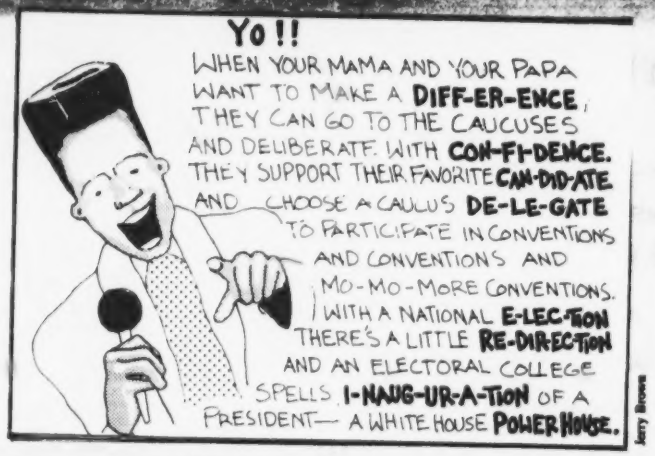

RONNIE HAMMER FOR ★ PRESIDENT ★
ROSIE! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
IT'S RONNIE HAMMER!
WOW! LET'S GET CLOSER.
HEY, HAMMER, WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN IOWA?
GATHERING SUPPORT! THE CAUCUSES ARE COMING SOON.
WHAT'S A CAUCUS?
HHMMM?
Yo!! WHEN YOUR MAMA AND YOUR PAPA WANT TO MAKE A DIFF-ER-ENCE, THEY CAN GO TO THE CAUCUSES AND DELIBERATE WITH CON-FI-DENCE. THEY SUPPORT THEIR FAVORITE CAN-DI-DATE AND CHOOSE A CAUCUS DE-LE-GATE TO PARTICIPATE IN CONVENTIONS AND CONVENTION'S AND MO-MO-MORE CONVENTIONS. WITH A NATIONAL E-LEC-TION THERE'S A LITTLE RE-DIR-ECTION AND AN ELECTORAL COLLEGE SPELLS I-NAUG-UR-A-TION OF A PRESIDENT— A WHITE HOUSE POWER HOUSE.
?
WHAT?
HUH?
Look! A CAUCUS IS THE WAY VOTERS BEGIN TO SELECT A PRESIDENT.
GOTCHA, HAMMER!
GOTTA GO, IT'S HAMMER TIME!
PROPER!
JERRY BROWN


Yo!!
WHEN YOUR MAMA AND YOUR PAPA WANT TO MAKE A DIFF-ER-ENCE, THEY CAN GO TO THE CAUCUSES AND DELIBERATE WITH CON-FI-DENCE. THEY SUPPORT THEIR FAVORITE CAN-DID-ATE AND CHOOSE A CAUCUS DE-LE-GATE TO PARTICIPATE IN CONVENTIONS AND CONVENTION'S AND MO-MO-MORE CONVENTIONS. WITH A NATIONAL E-LEC-TION THERE'S A LITTLE RE-DIR-ECT-ION AND AN ELECTORAL COLLEGE SPELLS I-NAUG-UR-A-TION OF A PRESIDENT— A WHITE HOUSE POWER HOUSE.
Jerry Brown

Goldfinch

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